# 2011 COORDINATED INVESTMENT ADVISER EXAMS

North American Securities Administrators Association



#### Who Was Examined?

825 State-level advisers, of which...

155 advisers (18.8%) were affiliated with a BD

75 advisers (9.1%) used or acted as solicitors

71 advisers (8.6%) managed pooled investments

98 advisers (11.9%) had financial only planning clients

594 advisers (72%) had one IAR only



#### Who Conducted the Exams?

Securities examiners from 45 jurisdictions including British Columbia, Ontario, Nova Scotia, Quebec, and Saskatchewan, Canada

#### What Was Found?

3543 total deficiencies in 13 categories



### The Categories

- Books and Records
- Financials
- Registration
  - □ ADV, U4, Firm, IARs, ADV Delivery
- Fees
- Advertising
  - □ Ads, Websites, Business Cards, Seminars
- Privacy
- Supervisory/Compliance
  - Supervisory Procedures,
     Compliance Procedures,
     Policies
- Investment Activities
  - Adherence to Investment Policy, Fairness, Conflicts

- Performance Reporting
- Custody
- Solicitors
- Pooled Investment Vehicles (Hedge Fund)
- Unethical Business Practices
  - □ 21 from NASAA Model Rule 120(a)(4)-1
    - Unsuitable Recommendations
    - Contracts
    - Unauthorized trades
    - Excessive Fees
    - Borrowing from client
    - Etc...

### The "Average" Adviser

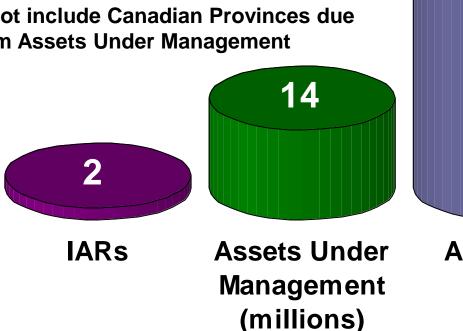
Averages do not include advisers which had "0" **Accounts and "0" Assets Under Management** because they were:

**Financial Planners Only** 

**Solicitors Only** 

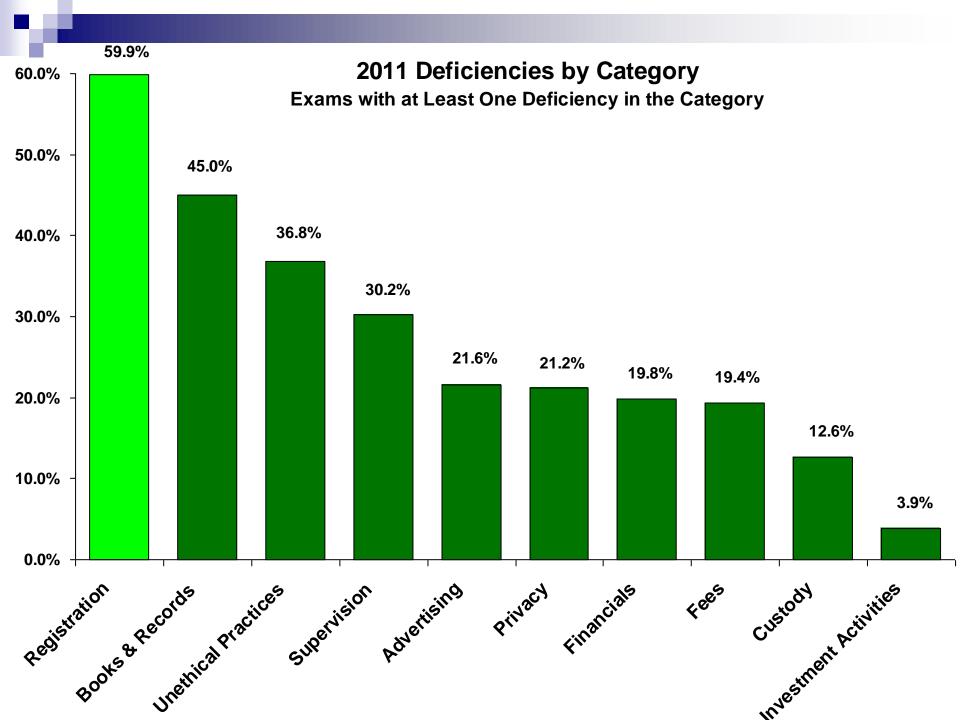
**New Advisers** 

**Averages do not include Canadian Provinces due** to no maximum Assets Under Management

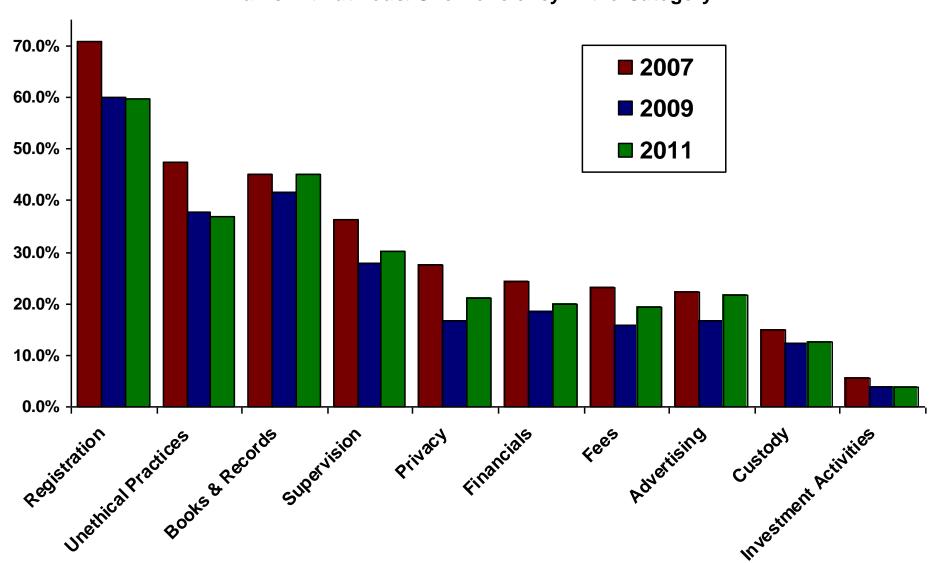


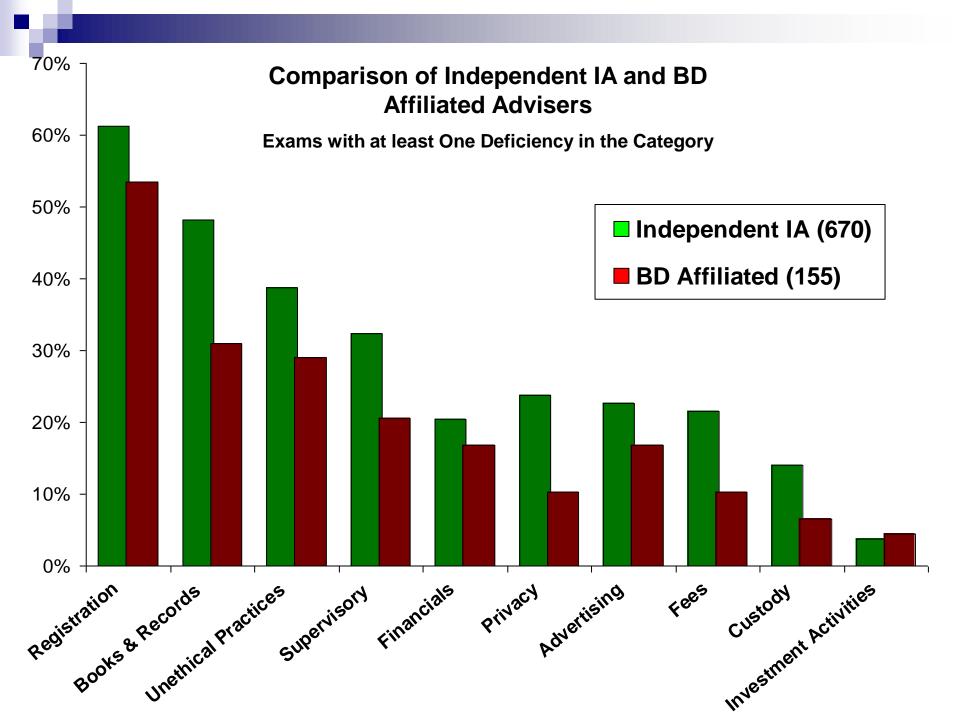
Accounts

57

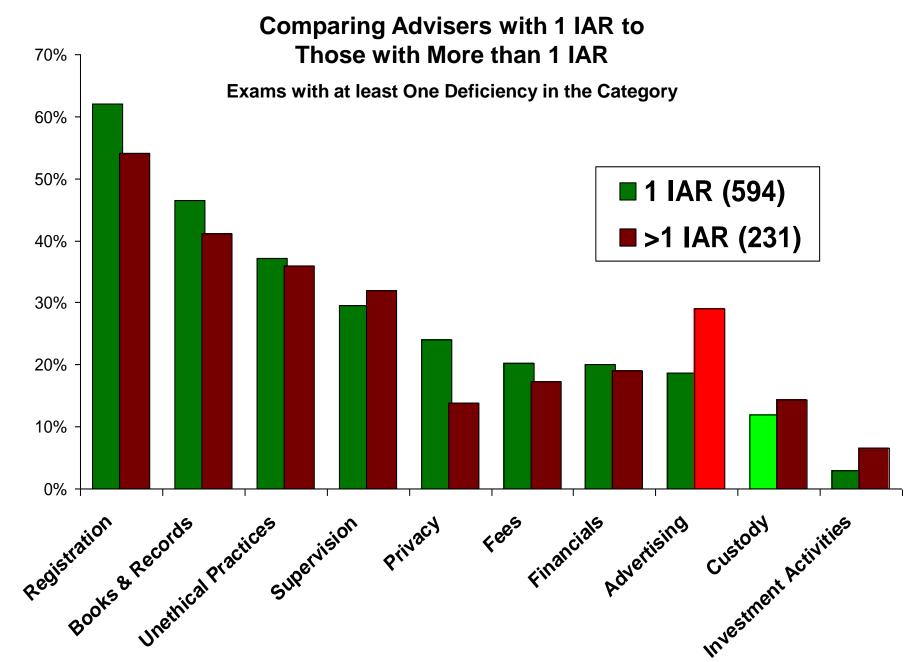


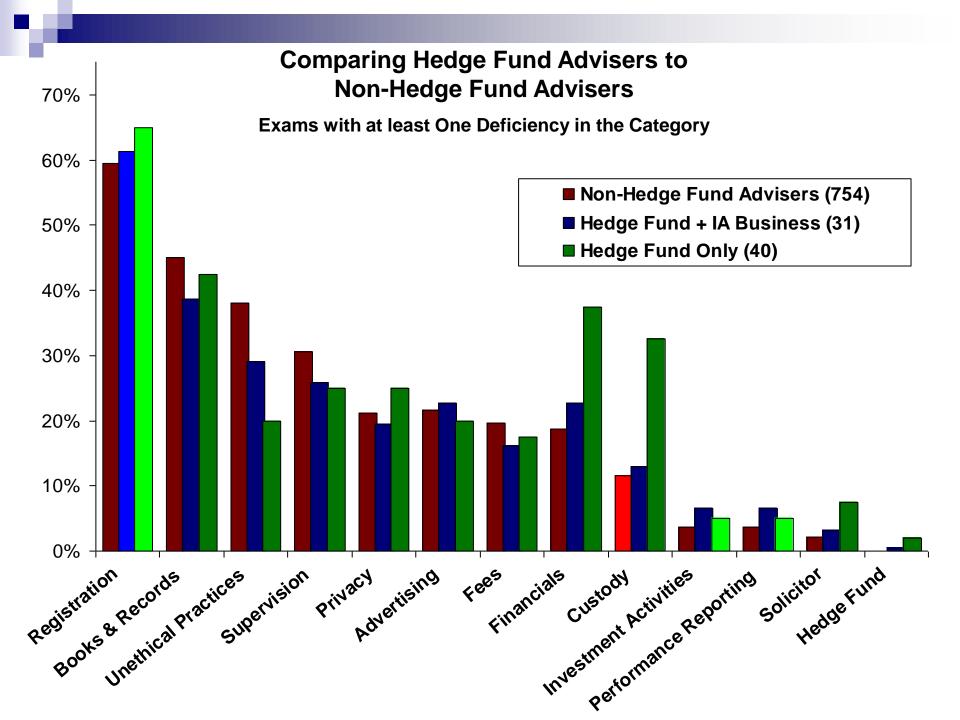
Comparing 2007, 2009, & 2011 Deficiencies Exams with at Least One Deficiency in the Category



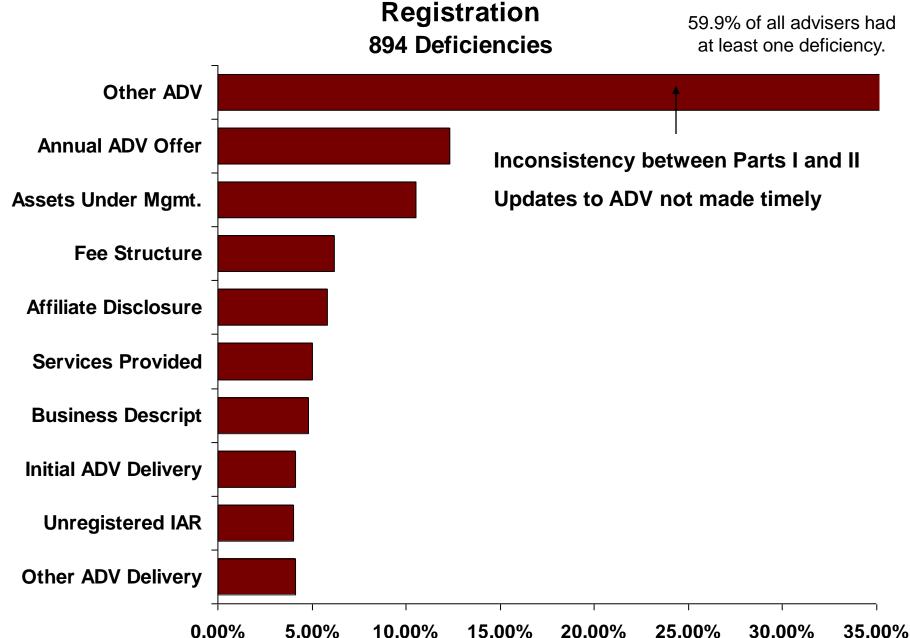


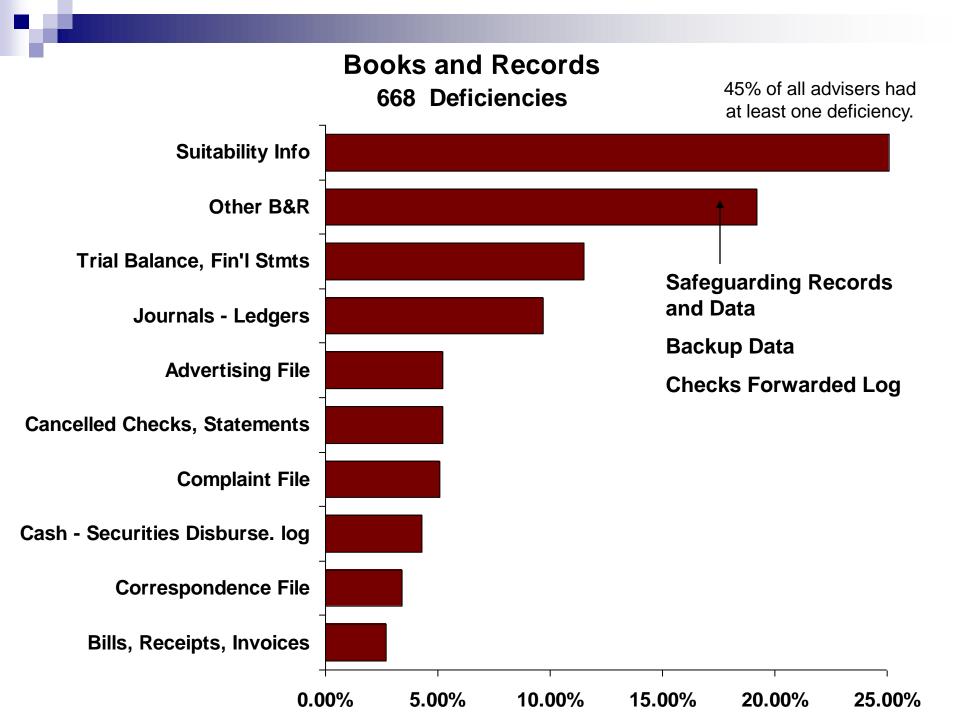












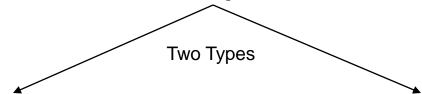


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### **Unethical Business Practices**

#### **504 Deficiencies**

304 exams (36.8%) noted at least one unethical business practice deficiency



#### Advisory Contracts

- 264 exams (32%) noted at least one contract deficiency\*
- □ 371 (74%) of the 504 UBP deficiencies

#### Other Unethical Practices

- □ 106 exams (12.8%) noted at least one non-contract unethical practice deficiency\*
- □ 133 (26%) of the 504 UBP deficiencies

<sup>\*</sup> Some advisers had both contract <u>and</u> other unethical practice deficiencies

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#### **Unethical Business Practices**

#### **504 Total Deficiencies**

75% ¬ 371 Contract Deficiencies

Other: 40.7% (info, not updated)

No/Missing Contract: 21.6%

Hedge Clause: 7.3%

Discretion: 5.4%

Fee Formula: 5.1%

Pre-Paid Refund: 3.8%

Term: 3.5%

Non-Assignment: 3.2%

No Fee: 3.0%

Rescission: 2.4% (48hr lang.)

36.8% of all advisers had at least one unethical business practice deficiency

133 "Other" Deficiencies

Other: 18%

Advertising: 12%

Conflicts: 12%

NPI: 9.8%

Qualifications/Services: 9%

0%

50%

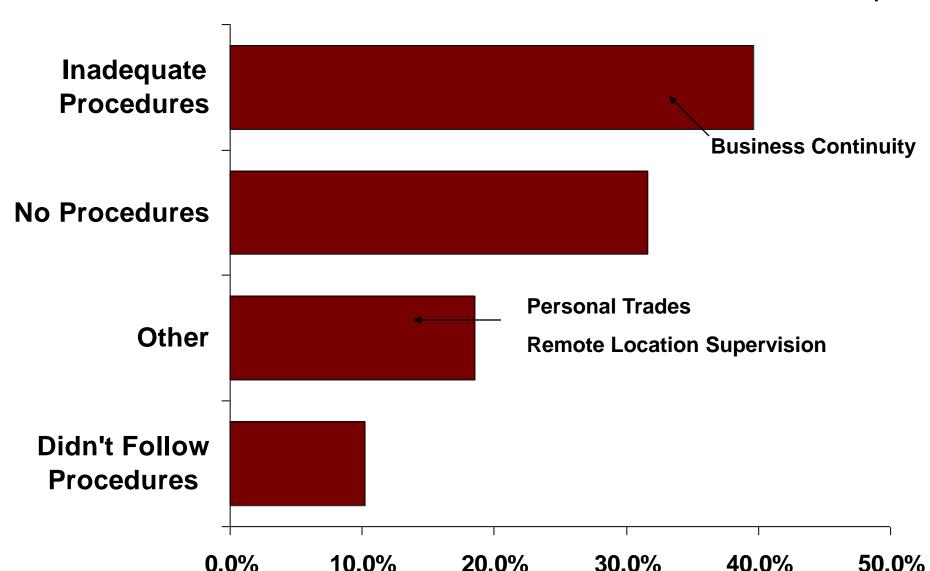
25%

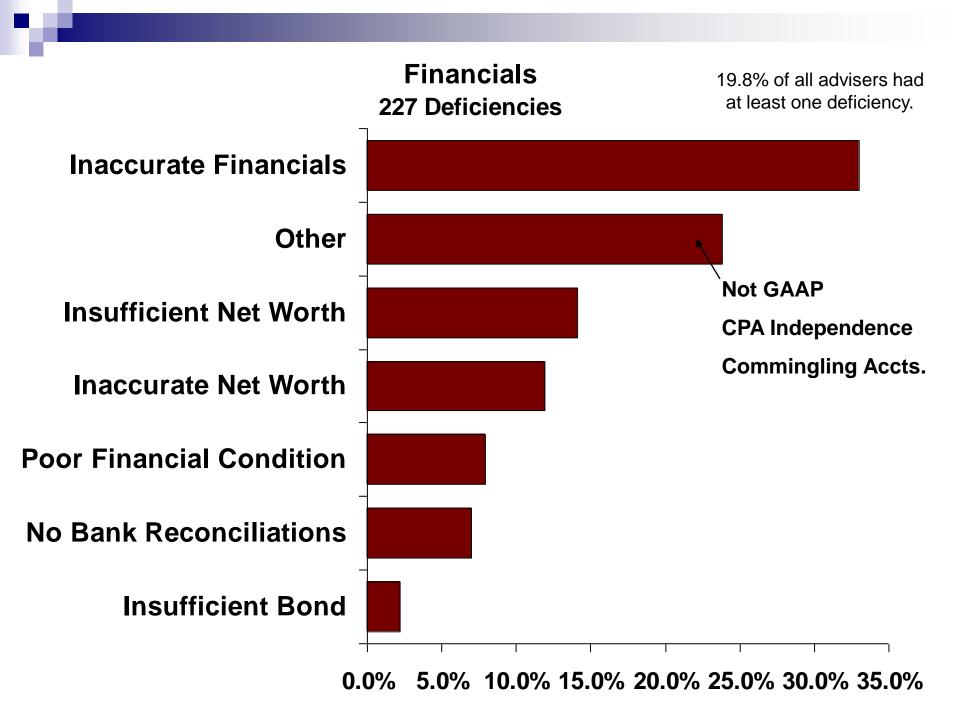
Contracts

Other UBP



30.2% of all advisers had at least one deficiency.

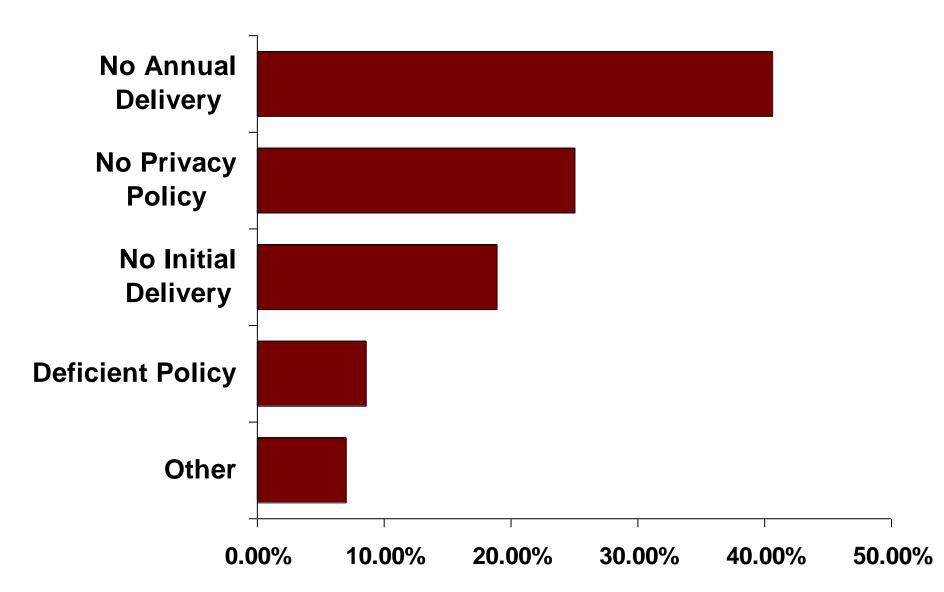








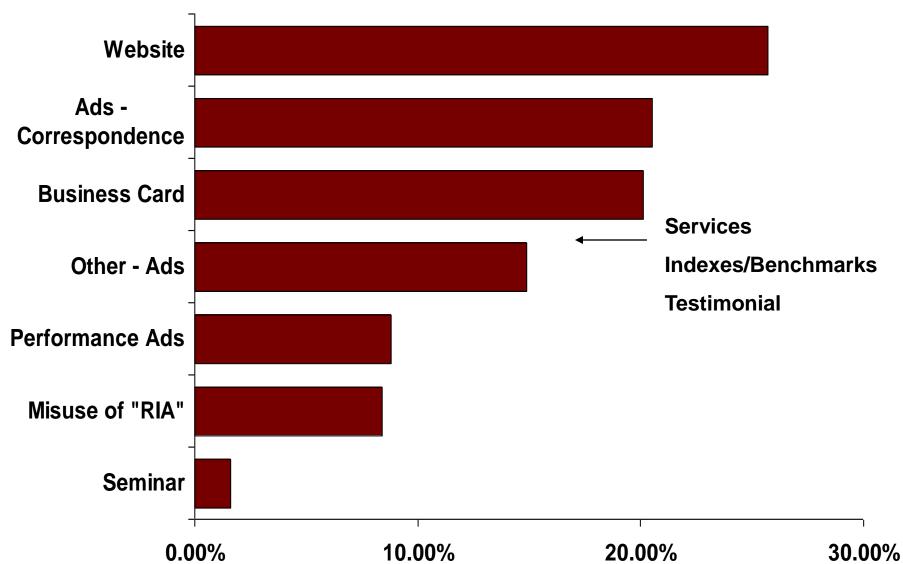
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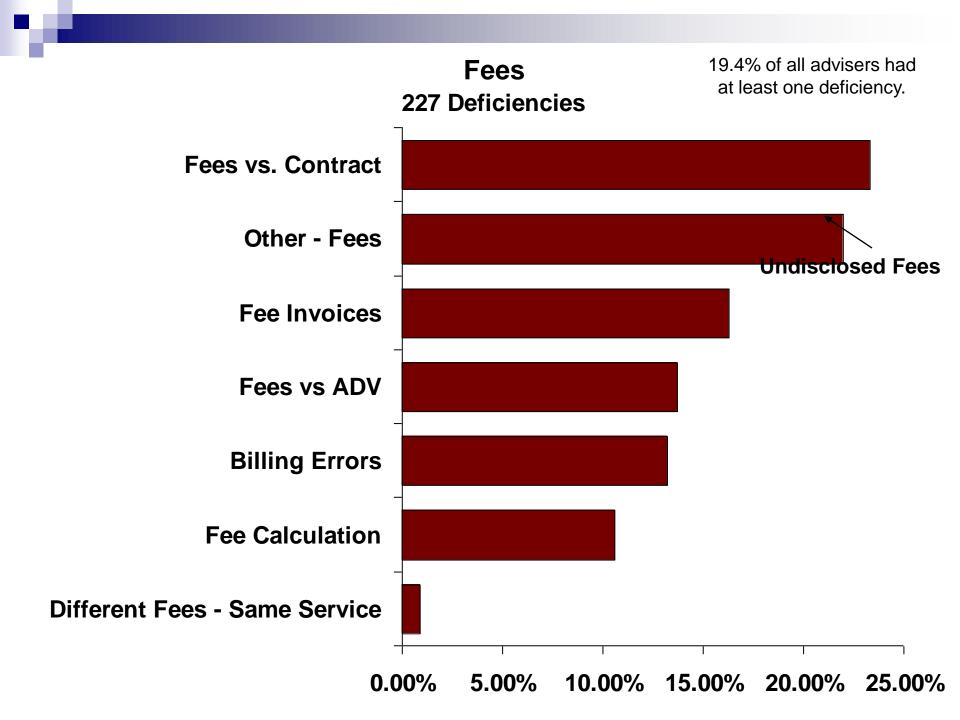




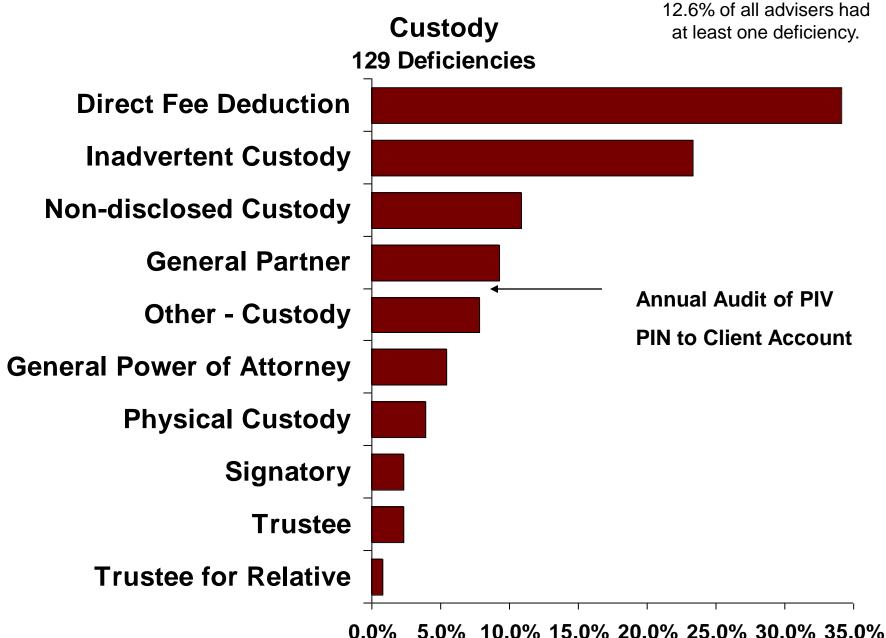


21.6% of all advisers had at least one deficiency.





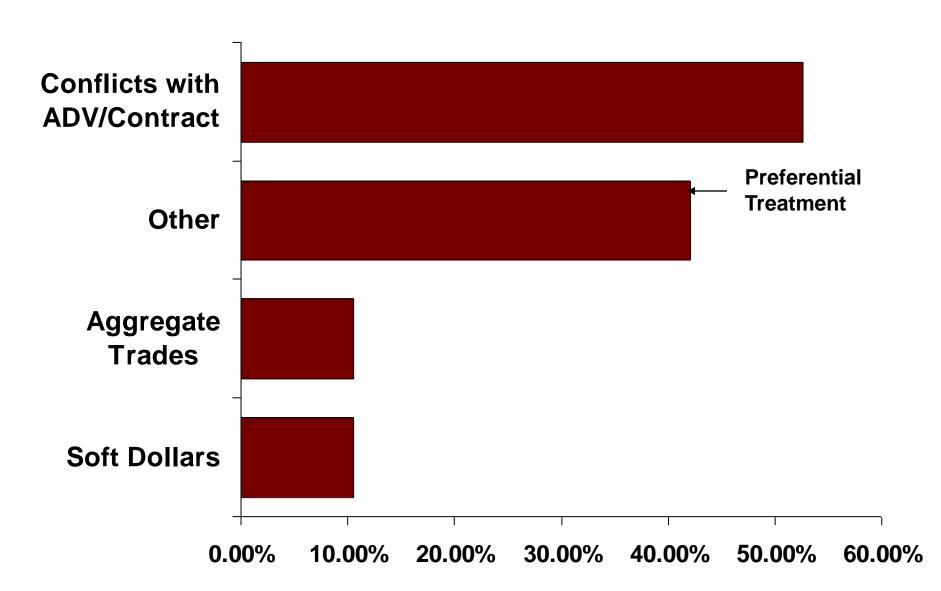


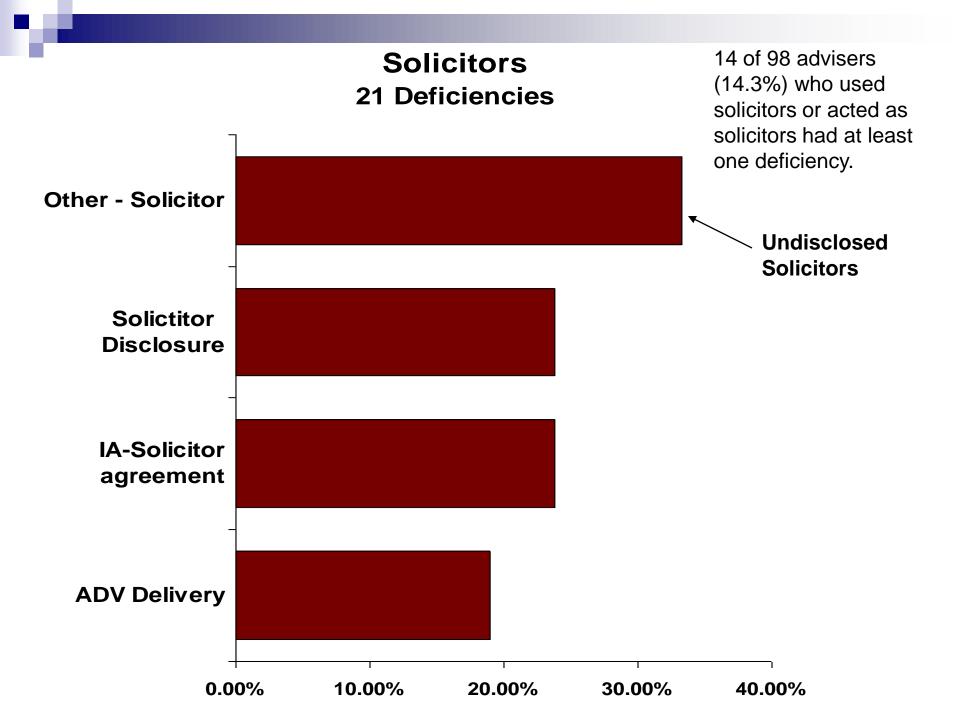


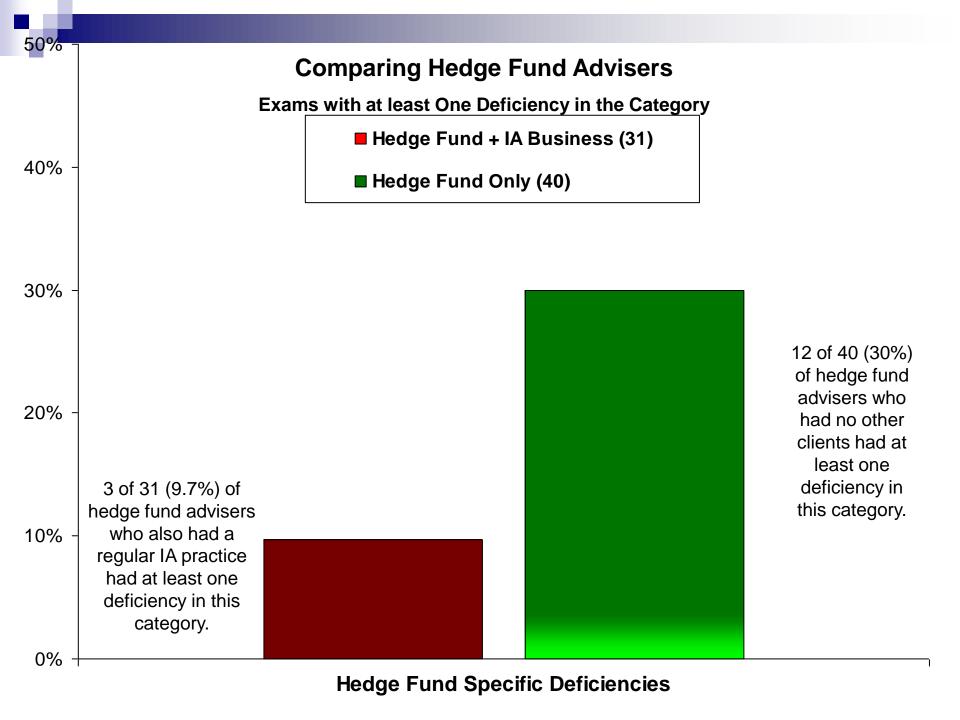


# Investment Activities 38 Deficiencies

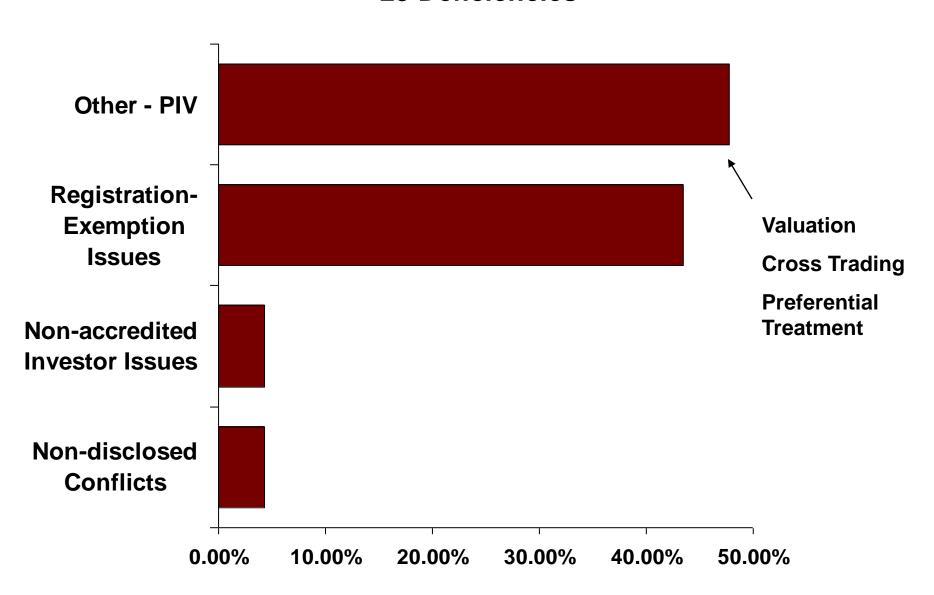
3.9% of all advisers had at least one deficiency.



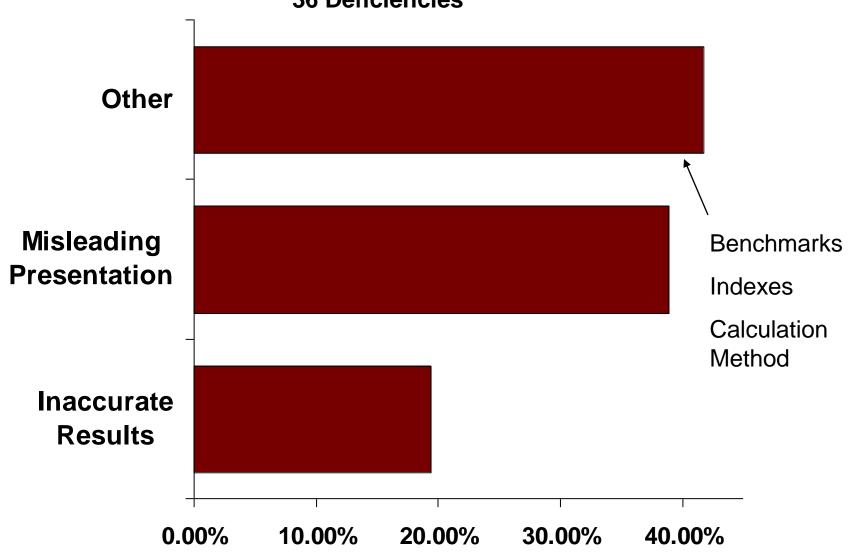




#### Hedge Funds 23 Deficiencies



# Performance Reporting 36 Deficiencies



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#### **Best Practices for Investment Advisers**

- Review and revise Form ADV and disclosure brochure annually to reflect current and accurate information.
- Review and update all contracts.
- Prepare and maintain all required records, including financial records. Back-up electronic data and protect records. Document checks forwarded.
- Prepare and maintain client profiles.
- Prepare a written compliance and supervisory procedures manual relevant to the type of business to include business continuity plan.
- Prepare and distribute a privacy policy initially and annually.
- Keep accurate financials. File timely with the jurisdiction. Maintain surety bond if required
- Calculate and document fees correctly in accordance with contracts and ADV.
- Review all advertisements, including website and performance advertising, for accuracy.
- Implement appropriate custody safeguards, if applicable.
- Review solicitor agreements, disclosure, and delivery procedures.